



2016 Pitahaya/Dragon Fruit Production Seminar

San Diego County Farm Bureau
1670 East Valley Parkway | Escondido, CA 92027
Friday - August 19, 2016

TENTATIVE AGENDA

- 7:00 am** *Registration, Continental Breakfast, Welcome and Introductions*
- 8:00am** *San Diego County Water Update, Regulations on Exotic Pest & Control Strategies*
– Eric Larson, San Diego County Farm Bureau
- 8:30 am** *Pitahaya Production in Southern California - Research Update & Reports -*
Ramiro Lobo, UCCE San Diego; Jose Fernandez de Soto, UCCE Ventura County;
and Jose Aguiar, UCCE Riverside County
- 9:00 am** *Using Tissue Culture to Propagate Pitahaya or Dragon Fruit* – Duncan McKee,
Cal Poly Pomona
- 9:30 am** *Pitahaya or Dragon Fruit Varieties – Morphology, Genetic Characterization,*
Adaptation & Yield Data – Ramiro Lobo, Farm Advisor – UCCE San Diego County
- 10:00 am** **BREAK**
- 10:30 am** *Pitahaya Post Harvest Management & Sensory Evaluation* – Mary Lu Arpaia,
Extension Postharvest Management Specialist, UC Riverside.
- 11:15 pm** *Marketing Specialty Crops - Pitahayas or Dragon Fruit Market Options &*
Considerations – Karen Kaplan, Frieda's Finest (Invited, not confirmed)
- 12:00 noon** **LUNCH (Catered by Phil's Barbeque)**
- 1:00 pm** *Pitahaya Orchard Establishment & Economics Considerations* – Ramiro Lobo,
Farm Advisor - UCCE San Diego County
- 1:30 pm** *Pitahaya Fertility Management & Soil Analytical Reports* – Kenny Lam,
Agronomy Director – AGQ Labs Inc.
- 2:00 pm** *Pitahaya Irrigation & Water Management: Research Update* – Jose F. De Soto,
UCCE Ventura County and Gary Tanizaki, UCCE San Diego County
- 2:30 pm** **BREAK**
- 2:45 pm** *Nematode Issues for Pitahaya Production: Research Update* – Ole Becker,
Extension Nematology Specialist - UC Riverside
- 3:15 pm** *Insect Pest Management & Pesticide Use Safety for Pitahayas and Other Specialty*
Crops – Anna Howell, UCCE Ventura County
- 3:45 pm** *Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Pesticide Use Regulations for Specialty*
Crops (Pitahaya) Production – Cheryl Wilen, UC IPM Area Advisor
- 4:30 pm** *Program Evaluation/Adjourn*

Register Online at: <http://ucanr.edu/2016-pitahaya>



2016 Pitahaya/Dragon Fruit Festival/Field Day

UC South Coast Research and Extension Center
7601 Irvine Boulevard | Irvine, CA 92618
Saturday - August 20, 2016

TENTATIVE AGENDA:

- 6:30 am** **Registration Opens**
- 7:30 am** ***Welcome & Overview of UC-SCREC – Tammy Majcherek, UC South Coast REC***
- 7:45 am** **Trams Depart for Field Tour – Session 1**
- 8:00 am** ***Stop # 1: Old Pitahaya Trial (20-30 minutes per station)***
- Station 1: Review of Pitahaya Varieties (self guided walk) and Pollination Demonstration – Ramiro Lobo & Tony Pacheco, UCCE San Diego
 - Station 2: Weed Identification & Control Clinic – Cheryl Wilen, UCCE IPM Area Advisor
- Stop # 2: New Pitahaya Trial (20-30 minutes per station)***
- Station 1: Pitahaya Trellis & Irrigation Trials, Irrigation Systems Design Considerations – Gary Tanizaki, UCCE San Diego and Jose Fernandez de Soto, UCCE Ventura County and UC Hansen REC
 - Station 2: Vertebrate Pest Management Strategies Demonstration - Niamh Quinn, UCCE Orange/San Diego Counties
- Stop # 3: Conference Room/Breezeway – John Hewlett, Univ. of WY, Moderator***
- Growing Pitahayas in your Backyard – A Panel Discussion addressing a number of topics for the home grower.
 - Ed Valdivia – Simi Valley, Los Angeles County
 - Linda Nickerson – Fallbrook, San Diego County
 - Other Growers Pending confirmation
- 9:00 am** ***Swap Tour Stops***
- 9:15 am** ***Repeat Tour Stops – Session 2***
- 10:15 am** ***Swap Tour Stops***
- 10:30 am** ***Repeat Tour Stops (if desired) or Return to Breezeway***
- 11:30 am** ***End Field Tour - Lunch & Fruit Tasting (lunch included with registration)***
- 1:00 pm** Pitahaya Fruit & Ice Cream Tasting (Breezeway) - Group
- 2:30 pm** Pitahaya Cutting Distribution – Self Service based on cutting request
- 3:30 pm** ***Adjourn***